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Newsletter

Number 04

26 February 2010



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. to those parents who assisted with the timing of swimming heats this week

.. to those who assisted with this week's head lice inspection

.. to those parents who attended Syndicate discussions this week.

.. to those parents who assisted with this week's tennis and cricket tournaments

People of the week

.. PTA and volunteers for a highly successful 4 X 4 Rally held at Lovell's Farm last weekend. A special thanks to Yvette and Mark Biddle, Jane Martin, Sean Parker, Chris Sapwell, Ben Smith, Trent Sissons, Dave Wilkinson and also to Michaela Wilkinson, Katie and Laura Biddle - you were all awesome!

Triadic Conferences (parent / teacher / student interviews)

1 and 2 March

This week parents will have received confirmation of their interview times (if you have not received this confirmation please check with your child or give the office a call). **Please remember to bring ..**

.. **your child**, as they will assist in the setting of their own learning targets (optional attendance for year ones)

.. the **Indicator Report** (sent home today)

.. the **Learner Journey Sheet** (first two columns completed in pencil please)

Parents are encouraged to make an alternative appointment if the above interview days do not suit.

Early finish 1 and 2 March

A final reminder that school finishes at 2:30 PM on 1 and 2 March to enable preparation for triadic conferences to take place. Parents are asked to note that buses will run approximately 30-40 minutes early on these days. If you pick your children up from school you are asked to do so at this earlier time please. We apologise for any inconvenience arising from these changes.

think... **SOLD!**

think yellow,
think...

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Indicator Reports

The first of these reports (The Indicator Report) was sent home with your child today along with a target setting sheet (My Learner Journey). Parents are asked to ..

- .. read over the Indicator Report(s) with their child(ren)
- .. identify one area in maths, one in reading and one in writing for special focus in the first half year (or an alternative focus at your discretion)
- .. complete the first two columns in the Learner Journey sheet (in pencil)
- .. bring the Indicator Report and Learner Journey Sheet to conferences (1 and 2 March)

Please contact/drop by the office at any stage if you have questions or need assistance.

(Please note that in a small number of cases students may have few or no indicators in beginning or advanced sections of these reports - in these cases teachers may provide you with alternative lists from which to select target areas).

School Contributions / Trips and Events Fee

A reminder to get payment to the office at your nearest convenience. If you have opted for term payments, then Term 1 is now due, the balance will be invoiced early in Term 2. If you are feeling financially stretched at the moment you are invited to contact Kevin to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

International Schools English and Maths Competitions

A letter calling for expressions of interest in the above competitions was sent home today to those children who participated in earlier competitions and to those who expressed interest. If you did not receive this letter and would like one please phone the school office on Monday morning.

Year 7 and 8 Vaccinations

On 12 March meetings will be held in the school hall (for year 7 and 8 children and their parents) to discuss forthcoming vaccinations as follows..

2:30 PM - Year 7 and 8 boys and girls

2:45 PM - Year 8 girls (HPV vaccination)

Our public health nurse will be on hand to answer any questions.

School Hats

It has been noted that some parents are regularly having to replace their children's sun hats. Please check the names on your children's hats and ask them to return to their rightful owner where necessary. Thanks.

Pool Keys

Hire keys are available from the school office at \$25 per family for the 2010 swimming season. Those who held their key last year in anticipation of using again this year received an invoice three weeks back. **Please send the money in asap or return your key please so that we can make this available to another user. Many thanks.**

Zone Swimming Sports - Kokopu School - 4.3 (pp 5.3)

Qualifying children received consents for this event on 25 February. Children will travel by bus departing school shortly after 9:00 and returning by 3:00 PM. If you are intending to transport your own child please ensure the school is advised. Please ensure children bring sunhats, sun block, warm clothes, lunch and spending money at your discretion. Any questions please contact Mr D. Good luck to all of those students representing our school at this event.

(Children who qualify at the zone event will be invited to participate in the Interschool Swimming Championships to be held on 16 and 17 March - more to follow)

School Swimming Sports - 10.3

Our School Swimming Sports takes place Wednesday 10 March (pp 11.3) and so you might like to pencil this in to your diaries. Events run most of the day culminating in a junior demonstration, relays and acknowledgements at the end of the day. You, and extended family, are invited to share this day with us - more details to follow.

*The sponsor for the Swimming Sports is
Michele Blagrove with Maggie Dixon Real Estate*

Term Headlice Inspection

If you received notice of infestation please take appropriate action before your child returns to school on Monday. These children will be re-checked in one week's time. We suggest weekly checks thereafter for all children if we are to stay on top of this problem.

Year 3 and 4 Camp

Early notice for those arranging annual leave that the year 4 camp will be held at Marsden Bay 30 November to 3 December. Year 3's will join camp for 2 and 3 December. Hopefully some of you can pencil in these dates.

My Career Books

We know how often parents misplace reports, school photographs etc. and these books could be a handy place to store these. Although these are \$22, this is a one off purchase, covering schooling through to year 13. While we included these on stationery lists for year 1 and 2 children, parents are most welcome to purchase these for older children for whom they are just as relevant. **There is a limited supply of these and they cannot be purchased anywhere else - if you would like to view a sample portfolio please drop by the school office.**

Bible in Schools programme

If you are able to dedicate 30 minutes or so on a Monday morning to join the Bible in Schools teaching team please contact Carina Wykes on 435 0911.

After School Care

Will be available from 2.30pm on Monday 1 & Tuesday 2 March due to an early finish for Triadic Conferences (Parent/Teacher/Student interviews).

All users of this programme are asked to register please. This can be done on line by visiting www.skids.co.nz or alternatively by checking in with the programme manager here at school before the start of ASC (we also now have forms at the school office). The standard of this programme has been significantly upgraded and **large WINZ subsidies** are available to most users. Children complete set activities, have supervised and assisted homework, a healthy afternoon tea and other extras. Parents of children who travel on the bus into town may want to consider placing their children from 3:00 to 4:00 as they would arrive home having had their afternoon tea, burnt off some energy, with their homework completed. We hope parents will make full use of this programme to help ensure it is sustainable. Brochures are available from the school office.

After School Care 2009

We have been advised that a number of parents who used the A.S.C. programme in 2009 have not paid fees for services provided in term 4 of last year in spite of numerous requests for payment. We encourage these parents to forward payment to Karina as soon as possible or to give her a call if their invoice was not received or has been misplaced.

Community Notices

Day out with Thomas - Glenbrook Vintage Railway, 6 & 7th March. 10.00am - 4.00pm. Train rides, activities, sausage sizzle. For more info ph 09 636 9361.

Hikurangi JMC Hockey - We are looking for new players for the upcoming season, boys and girls aged 5-12. Our rally is being held at the Kensington hockey turf on Wednesday 3 March at 6.00pm, at far end of the grandstand. For more info contact Paula 433 8214.

Allens Kids Triathlon - Sunday 14 March, Onerahi. Enter Online now. www.allens.co.nz

Tall Poppies Seminars - for Gifted and Talented kids. Auckland 7 to 9 April. Visit www.holidayseminars.co.nz

Newsletter

Remember to ask your child for the newsletter each Friday afternoon. Our newsletter (along with archived copies) can also be accessed on our website or **emailed to you on request (just contact Helen to arrange this)**. If you have questions from time to time just give us a call - we NEVER mind answering these.

Board Election

The closing date for nominations is 23 April and polling day is 7 May. If interested in serving on our board and wanting to discuss with someone please contact Kevin, an existing Board Member or Donna Cates (our returning officer).

Lunches

We are mightily impressed by the quality of lunches most of our children bring to school - well done parents. From time to time we are asked by parents to ensure that their children eat a good portion of their lunch. While we do not ask children to eat all of their lunch, we usually ask them to eat most of it, allowing one or two items to be left over at their discretion. What we have noticed is that some children are tending to eat their pre-packed and processed food first while leaving their sandwiches and fruit uneaten. From next week we will be asking children to eat their sandwiches and fruit first before eating pre-packaged food. Let us know how this goes at your end and please advise if it creates any problems.

Final thought

"If you want to be happy, be" Leo Tolstoy 1828-1910

Regards
Kevin Trewhella
PRINCIPAL

**Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them**

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31 Great North Road, Kamo

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Ph 09 435 1100

PTA EVENTS



PTA Family Picnic & Swim Evening at school

Friday 5 March

Start time - 6.00pm - BYO (No alcohol allowed)

Bring your own picnic food, picnic blanket and togs

**This is a great chance to mix with and meet other school families,
and let the kids have a swim outside school hours.**

*Families with children starting school soon are welcome too.
(If you know of a family starting school please invite them for us)*